

have the flexibility to develop agreements which are tailored to their unique situation. These types of agreements have been successfully used in energy efficiency initiatives. Credits are awarded for measured reductions against a company's historic releases. This results-oriented approach which rewards environmental benefits, not regulation savyness, is similar to the Second Generation approach several of my colleagues are exploring for improving environmental performance in general. Finally, this bill, by focusing on voluntary actions to meet society's needs, mirrors the successes many of our States and localities have had in addressing a wide range of domestic issues.

I am proud to join with my esteemed colleagues in introducing this innovative legislation, and I encourage all of my colleagues in the House to support our efforts.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS OF BILL

SECTION 1—TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section 2—Purpose. To encourage voluntary actions to mitigate potential environmental impacts of greenhouse gas emissions by ensuring that the emission baselines of participating companies receive appropriate credit. These credits for voluntary mitigation actions would be usable in any future domestic greenhouse gas emission program.

The purpose is to encourage voluntary actions, not to encourage a future domestic program. The bill is not tied to Kyoto or any specific international greenhouse gas agreement. Credits would be usable in any domestic program.

Section 3—Definitions. A number of terms are defined including a number of terms specific to the carbon sequestration portion of the bill.

Section 4—Authority for Voluntary Action Agreements. This section provides the authority for entering into these agreements to the President and allows delegation to any federal department or agency.

Section 5—Entitlement to Greenhouse Gas Reduction Credit for Voluntary Action. Provides authority for credits for: certain projects under the initiative for Joint Implementation program; prospective domestic actions (includes a significantly revised sequestration); and retrospective past actions.

This section includes a third party verification provision to the past actions.

This section also includes a Congressional notification provision when the amount of credits equals 350 million metric tons carbon equivalent. This provision is designed to preserve future Congress' options.

Section 6—Baseline and Base Period. This section provides guidance on developing baselines from which reductions are measured.

Section 7—Sources and Carbon Reservoirs Covered by Voluntary Action Agreements. This section explains how sources are calculated. This bill provides provisions for dealing with a company's growth. This section allows baseline adjustments to reflect a company's increased (or decreased) output, net of the general economic growth of the country. Thus, in effect, companies with major growth are rewarded by having their baselines increased, while the environment is protected by offsets from companies which are not growing. This section also includes guidance on "outsourcing", where companies contract out portions of their work, thus reducing their emissions (but increasing the contractor's emissions) while increasing their production (thus raising their baselines).

Section 8—Measurement and Verification. This section provides the reporting responsibilities of participants.

Section 9—Participation by Manufacturers and Adopters of End-Use, Consumer and Similar Technologies. This section provides guidance for manufacturers of products sold to consumers, such as autos, refrigerators, and computers. Use of these products contribute substantially to the overall green house gas emissions. However, without this section, energy efficiency improvements in these areas would not be captured in the voluntary program. This section provides incentive for manufacturers of these products to increase their energy efficiency and other emission reductions efforts in the products they produce.

Section 10—Carbon Sequestration. This section provides guidance on what carbon sequestration projects qualify for voluntary action credits. This guidance is designed to ensure scientifically acceptable methods are utilized in designing these projects, as well as requirements for monitoring, reporting and verification. Credits for carbon sequestration are limited to 20% of all credits available under this act.

Section 11—Trading and Pooling. This provides authority for trading credits and arranging pooling agreements among participants. The pooling authority can provide a means for small businesses and others to participate.

Section 12—Relationship to Future Domestic Greenhouse Gas Regulatory Statute. This provision gives the companies the guarantees they need that these actions will be applicable to any future program that could be authorized by the Congress.

TRIBUTE TO FEDERAL JUDGE KENNETH K. HALL OF WEST VIRGINIA

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to, and to celebrate the life of Federal Judge Kenneth K. Hall of West Virginia.

Kenneth K. Hall, who was born in Boone County, West Virginia, died at the age of 81 at his home in West Virginia after a 47 year distinguished career as a State and Federal judge. He began his service to our State and the Nation when he became a circuit judge in the county of his birth in 1952 at the age of thirty-three. He was appointed to his federal judge's post in 1971 by President Nixon.

Five years later, Judge Hall was named to the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Virginia, comprised of West Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Well-known for his humor, his wisdom, his straightforward manner and understanding of West Virginians, he is best known for the precedent-setting decision he made in 1995 when he wrote the majority decision that rejected efforts by The Citadel—a Charleston, South Carolina military college—to ban female cadets from attending the college.

The man who made the decision in the case of The Citadel, was a man who had the courage of his convictions. He had honed his skills as a Federal judge early in his career in West Virginia, when he outlawed the State's existing abortion law and presided over a violent school textbook controversy (the Kanawha County Textbook case).

He also presided over a class action lawsuit against Pittston Coal Company, over the tragic

1973 Buffalo Creek Flood which resulted in the deaths of 125 West Virginians and wiped out a small town. The lawsuit ended with a \$13.5 million settlement for 625 plaintiffs.

Upon learning of his death, U.S. Senator ROBERT C. BYRD said that "he was someone on whom I could always rely for straightforward, no-nonsense advice . . ." This statement has been made by the many, many friends he left behind and who remember him with reverence and deep respect.

Before becoming a judge, Kenneth Hall served as Mayor of Madison in his home county of Boone, when in 1968 he ran unsuccessfully for the State Supreme Court—but he persevered and went on to serve as a hearing examiner for the Social Security Administration before his elevation to the federal bench.

Judge Hall is survived by his wife, Gerry, and his son Keller. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them, and we keep them and all West Virginians in our hearts as they mourn the loss of Judge Hall's incisive humor, his masterful storytelling, and his deep and compassionate understanding of the people he loved and served so well.

TRIBUTE TO THE LANERI FAMILY AND THE O.B. MACARONI COMPANY

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I know the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in recognizing a family, company, and corporate citizen of Fort Worth who, for the past 100 years, have not only been significant contributors to the Fort Worth community and the state of Texas but have also made the best pasta this side of Italy. The Laneri family and O.B. Macaroni Company have been a cornerstone of the Fort Worth community; and, as they celebrate their 100th anniversary this year, they are doing so in grand fashion by donating thousands of pounds of pasta to those in need in North Texas and around the world. I want to take this opportunity to recognize the Laneri family, owners and managers of O.B. Macaroni Company, for their longtime contribution to the well being of the community.

An outstanding corporate citizen of Fort Worth, this family firm was founded in 1899. From the beginning, John B. (J.B.) Laneri, the family patriarch who came to Fort Worth in 1882, was the link between the company and the community.

In 1905, O.B. Macaroni Company was incorporated and J.B. Laneri became president. He was an early member of the Board of Trade, Director of the Fort Worth National Bank from 1902, and a noted philanthropist and local booster until his death in 1935. His home, built in 1921 at 902 S. Jennings Ave., is on the Texas Historical Register.

Located at the hub of the vast railroad network which reaches out of Fort Worth, the O.B. Macaroni Company shipped its popular products all across America, as well as provided secure and constant employment to the neighborhood.

The company grew; and in 1907 J.B.'s nephew, Louis Laneri, came to Fort Worth

from New York City to join the firm. The business continued to expand; and in the 1930s Louis's sons, John and Carl, went to work for the thriving pasta company.

Built on strong ties to family and community, the Fort Worth Macaroni Company became one of the leading regional pasta manufacturers and is the only company of its kind still existing in the South and Southwest.

The fourth generation of the Laneri family, Louis II and Carlo, continues the pasta operation on the south side of town. Working at the company from their teens, both returned to the family enterprise after graduating from college (Texas Wesleyan University and Stephen F. Austin University, respectively).

Louis Laneri, representing O.B. Macaroni, is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Pasta Association and a member of the DFW Grocers Association, the Food Salesman's Association, and the Food Processors Association.

Carrying on a tradition of giving back to the community, the family donates regularly to the Tarrant County Food Bank, the Women's Haven of Tarrant County, and various Fort Worth social and religious causes and programs, including education in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate and thank the Laneri family and the O.B. Macaroni Company for 100 years of success. Fort Worth is a better place thanks to their family unity, hard work, and charity over the past century.

ENDING MILITARY USE OF VIEQUES AND RETURNING IT TO THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the hard work of the Special Commission on the Situation of Vieques, which recently delivered its final report to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. I would especially like to recognize the Honorable Anibal Acevedo Vila, who very ably served on this commission representing the Popular Democratic Party, for his tireless efforts on behalf of the people of Vieques as well as the general population of Puerto Rico.

The conclusion reached by the Special Commission is that the U.S. Navy must cease its activities on the island of Vieques and return the occupied territory to the people of Vieques as soon as possible. I am pleased to note that the Governor of Puerto Rico agreed with the report's findings and recommendations and adopted them as Administration policy.

I have reviewed the report and was very impressed by the Commission's extensive research and findings. I have the report available for Members of Congress and urge all to call me for copies, and if not for the page limit, I would publish it at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Again, my congratulations to the Special Commission on the Situation of Vieques for their fine work in investigating U.S. Naval operations on the island.

CITIZENS MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE FACILITY

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to publicly congratulate the board of directors, administrative staff and employees of the Citizens Memorial Health Care Facility in Bolivar, Missouri for their outstanding vision, dedication and effort in attaining Merit Status in OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program. The 111 bed licensed skilled nursing facility located in Missouri's Seventh Congressional District joins over 400 other businesses in our nation in participation in this program. However this recognition is unique because this is the first skilled nursing care facility in the Nation to achieve this high level of safety compliance.

The designation was granted after an intensive 15 month-self study by employees at all levels followed by a rigorous five day comprehensive review visit by OSHA inspectors who found the facility to be fully in compliance with all regulations.

According to OSHA this designation means that the health and safety practices and procedures developed by CMHCF are models within the nursing care industry, and that the facility is preparing itself for even higher levels of health and safety compliance.

I would also point out that this outstanding achievement is the result of a cooperative effort between public and private entities rather than a unilateral regulatory effort on the part of a lone federal agency. To quote OSHA "This concept recognizes that compliance enforcement alone can never fully achieve the objectives of the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Good safety management programs that go beyond OSHA standards can protect workers more effectively than simple compliance."

This commitment to excellence in the care of its patients and employees is part of an overall culture of caring that is being recognized by a variety of outside agencies. For example, CMHCF is only one of seven facilities in the state that the Missouri Division of Aging has found to be deficiency free for six years or longer.

I express my appreciation, and that of all my colleagues, to Board President Dave Strader, Executive Director Don Babb, and Facility Administrator Jeff Miller for their leadership in bringing this national recognition to Bolivar Missouri and the Seventh Congressional District.

1999 EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS AWARDS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the recipients of the fourth annual Excellence in Business Award for their high ethical standards, corporate success and growth, employee and customer service, and concern for the environment.

Award winners include many types of businesses from the Valley: agriculture; charities;

finance; banking and insurance; health care; manufacturing; professional services; real estate and construction; nonprofit organizations; small businesses; retail and wholesale.

The 1999 Excellence in Business Award winners are: Joseph Gallo Farms-Agriculture, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Fresno, Kings and Madera Counties Inc.-Charitable, Valley Small Business Development Corp.-Financial/Banking/Insurance, The Fresno Surgery Center-Healthcare, National Diversified Sales-Manufacturing, San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust-Nonprofit, Anthony C. Pings and Associates-Professional Services, Colliers Tingey International-Real Estate/Construction, Me-n-Ed's Pizzerias-Retail/Wholesale, McCombs and Associates-Small Business, and Samuel T. Reeves-Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate each of the 1999 Excellence in Business Award winners for their leadership and contributions to the community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing all of the recipients many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO THE JOHNSON FAMILY ON THEIR 25TH REUNION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues here in the United States House of Representatives a family rich in both history and tradition. I speak of the Johnson Family, who will gather on July 30th-August 1, 1999 to celebrate their 25th Annual Johnson Family Reunion.

The Johnson Family are descendants of the distinguished George Johnson of Lincolnton, Georgia. The theme for this year's reunion of the Johnson Family is "A Strong Foundation . . . Bridge To The New Millennium."

At a time when we constantly hear that family values are a thing of the past, the Johnson Family stands out as a shining example of the strong, enduring bonds of family. As we enter this new millennium, we indeed draw inspiration from the Johnson family and their commitment to each other and to the betterment of society.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Johnson Family as generations young and old gather for this special occasion. May their 25th family reunion be a successful event full of happy memories which they will carry to the new millennium.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EDUCATING AMERICA'S GIRLS ACT OF 1999, H.R. 2505

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce The Educating America's Girls Act of 1999, or the Girls Act, along with Representatives NANCY JOHNSON, WILLIAM CLAY, CONNIE MORELLA, LYNN WOOLSEY, and many of my other colleagues today.